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Some Stamp Designs.

C. A. HOWES.

(Continued from page 368.)

Up to 1860 New South Wales had no stamp of a higher denomination than one shilling and the inconvenience due to this fact, when packages requiring large amounts of postage were mailed, led to correspondence upon the subject between the Manager of the Union Bank of Australia and the Postmaster General. The latter states that "the fear of forgery has hitherto prevented stamps of a higher value being issued; but I think the time has arrived, in which the experiment might be made, by issuing a stamp of the value of 5s." Mr. Levinge, whose admirable work on the large square stamps of 1854-55 showed him to be an artist of no small merit, was asked to prepare a design and the five shilling "coin type," one of the most artistic and beautiful stamps in our albums, was the result.



On submitting the design Mr. Levinge suggested that it should be "either engraved on plates or sunk on dies, to produce medallion or cameo like impressions." Here, then, we have a suggestion for something like our embossed envelope stamps, but this idea was not wholly followed. The Postmaster General recommended "that the Government Agent in London be instructed to apply to Messrs. Perkins & Bacon to carry out the order, and that they be directed to employ the very best steel or copper-plate engraver in London for the purpose, with orders that his work shall be elaborate enough to defy forgery." The result was a stamp of which any

nation might be proud, it being beautifully engraved on steel and shaded in imitation of the medallion or cameo that Mr. Levinge suggested; it thus resembles a coin, from which fact comes its usual designation. Back of the bust is seen the sceptre, and the three stars around the head represent a portion of the constellation of the "Southern Cross" which has since figured on numerous other stamps. In front of the bust in the original design, however, was a waratah blossom, emblematic of the colony where the shrub is quite common. This flower (pronounced *wd-ra-tah*) is well represented on the one penny post cards of 1887 and 1888, and reminds one of a brilliant red chrysanthemum. But the English engravers were not familiar with it and, when the plate was received in the colony, where the stamps were printed, it was found that the English rose had been substituted for the colonial emblem.

This stamp was first issued on April 2, 1860, and continued in use until displaced by the five shilling map stamp on March 13, 1889. The latter in its turn was retired on June 22, 1897, when the coin stamp was re-issued in commemoration of the sixtieth year of Queen Victoria's reign, and it is still in use.

We now come to a set of stamps which has a two-fold interest for philatelists, for not only is it a pictorial issue, with all that that implies, but it is the first of the commemorative sets which have since become so popular—with many postal administrations, at least. We do not find the first "jubilee stamp" here for the honor of producing that belongs to our own country, which issued the "Centennial envelope" stamp in two colors for our one hundredth birthday in 1876. Twelve years later New South Wales celebrated a similar occasion, 1888 being the centenary of the founding of the colony. Various suggestions were made for the proper recognition of the occasion, among those carried out being the unveiling of a statue of Queen Victoria, the dedication of Centennial Park, a state banquet, illuminations, and, last but not least, a jubilee issue of postage stamps illustrative of the colony. When this issue was proposed it was decided to invite competitive designs in order that the work might be thoroughly representative. Accordingly the following notice was published in the *Government Gazette*:

GENERAL POST OFFICE,
SYDNEY, 15th November, 1887.

DESIGNS FOR NEW POSTAGE STAMPS.

DESIGNS will be received at this office until noon on Tuesday, the 6th December, for eight new Postage Stamps, intended to be commemorative of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the foundation of the Colony.

The designs must be drawn in black and white, to a scale four times the size of the present penny postage stamp. A distinct design will be required for each of the following denominations, viz.:—

One Penny.	Eight Pence.
Two Pence.	One Shilling.
Four Pence.	Five Shillings.
Six Pence.	Twenty Shillings.

The value of each stamp must be expressed in words, and the words "New South Wales Postage" and "One hundred Years" must be common to all.

Tenderers may submit designs for one or the whole.

A premium of £10 10s. will be given for the best design for each denomination, and £3.3s. for the second best.

The designs for which premiums are given to become the property of the Government, those that have not obtained prizes will be returned to the owners. * * * * *

CHARLES J. ROBERTS.

That the idea was popular and the colonists patriotic is evidenced by the fact that no less than 250 competitors took part and that there were 956 designs submitted for the Postmaster General's approval. The list of prize winners was published in a notice of January 6, 1888 with the following remark: "The Postmaster General reserves the right to use these designs in any way that may be deemed expedient to utilize them, *i. e.*, to substitute one denomination of stamp for another, or to modify the design in any respect; and it should be understood that it does not follow that the designs shall be used at all." As a matter of fact only five of the designs which won first prize were employed, the two pence and eight pence giving way to two designs, submitted by a Miss Devine, which did not take prizes and the one shilling, I believe, being designed by the Department to accompany the latter two. One of the designs which obtained second prize was later adapted to the 2½ pence stamp.

It seems a pity that the result of all this effort was marred, if not spoiled in some cases, by the inferior production of the finished stamps. Dr Houson tells us it was suggested "that the engraving of the designs should be entrusted to some firm of eminence, either in England or America, but it was decided that the engraving and printing should be done in the Government Printing Office under the immediate supervision of Mr. Charles Potter, the Government Printer. The engraving was performed by Mr. William Bell. The process was as follows:—A block of steel was prepared of the required size; on this the design was engraved. It was then hardened and the requisite number of impressions, in their proper places, were made by means of this die on a sheet of lead. This was then placed in the electrotyping bath and a copy made which was backed up and prepared for printing from." This method was adopted for economy's sake "as the requirements of the colony are now so great that steel plates would be of little service, requiring renewal so often, and the cost of reproduction being so much greater than that of the electrotypes." And yet what are New South Wales' requirements in one penny stamps, say, beside the number of two cent stamps required by Uncle Sam? Surely if we can afford thousands of millions of line engraved stamps each year, New South Wales ought to have been equal to tens of millions, especially in the case of such a set.

However, the stamps make quite an attractive series and show much to



interest us. We will begin with the 5 shillings which was the last stamp issued, it having appeared March 13, 1889, or nearly a year after the 20

shillings which ushered in the set on May 1, 1888. There is nothing of special note about it except the fact that it bears an outline map of Australia showing the location of the five colonies (now states), into which it is divided. But by some unexplained reason poor Tasmania has been literally "wiped off the map," for even a reading glass fails to locate any trace of this sixth state of the Commonwealth. The design was one of the prize winners, having been drawn by Mr. Charles Turner, but where there were originally two figures 5 in the circles at the sides we now find two coats-of-arms, that at the left being the royal arms of Great Britain and Ireland and that at the right the arms of the colony.

Australia was definitely discovered by the Dutch in 1606, though certain vague claims are made for earlier dates, mostly by Portuguese. Several Dutch explorers visited it at intervals thereafter and the name New Holland was given it in 1664 by the Dutch Government. With the opening of the eighteenth century the English began to arrive, but it was not until April 28, 1770, that the English flag was planted on the shores of New South Wales by the famous Captain Cook, whose portrait is shown us on the 4 pence stamp, another prize design, by H. A. Baraclaugh. James Cook was the son of a



Yorkshire farm hand, and was born October 27, 1728; but he took to the sea rather than the dry land and rapidly pushed his way upward. He had already surveyed the St. Lawrence River and the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador when, in 1768, he was sent in command of the ship *Endeavour* to Tahiti with a party of scientists who were to observe the transit of Venus. After leaving them he turned south on a voyage of exploration and discovery, examining the coasts of New Zealand and the eastern shores of New Holland. On leaving the latter he writes: "I once more hoisted English colours, and though I had already taken possession of several points, I now took possession of the whole Eastern coast in right of His Majesty King George the Third, by the name of New South Wales, with all the bays, harbors, rivers, and islands situated upon it; we then fired three volleys of small arms, which were answered by the same number from the ship."

Cook made two more voyages of exploration in the Pacific after this, the last one in an endeavor to find the elusive "Northwest Passage" to India. On this voyage he rediscovered and named the Sandwich Islands, which the Portuguese had found in 1542, and was unfortunately murdered there by the natives on February 14, 1779 in revenge for flogging one of them for theiving.

Cook first planted his flag near the harbor called Botany Bay, so named by Dr. Solander, a botanist with the expedition, from the number, variety and novelty of the specimens he found there. Their description of the locality brought it to the notice of the British Government at an unfortunate time. The independence of the American colonies had stopped the deportation of criminals to their shores, and in casting around for a new penal settlement, the attractions of Botany Bay caused its selection. In 1787 an expedition was fitted out, under the command of Capt Arthur Phillip, R. N., in the frigate

Sirius, with an armed tender and nine transports carrying about a thousand souls, of whom 757 were criminals of both sexes. Few countries, probably, ever had a more disreputable lot of "first citizens" than New South Wales was forced to start in with. What she has accomplished speaks wonders for the race that has built her up.



Botony Bay proved unsuitable for a settlement after all and six days later they sailed up the coast a little further and put into Port Jackson, a land locked harbor where, on the evening of January 26, 1788, the flag was raised and saluted and the foundation of the present city of Sydney laid. In historical contrast to this beginning, depicted on the "Sydney Views" of 1850, which have already been described, the Centennial one penny has a Sydney View of one hundred years later. According to the *Sydney Morning Herald* the view was taken from Mossman's Bay and shows the harbor, the Exhibition Building and the fortifications at Fort Denison, but it is too small and too poorly brought out on the stamp to make much out of. The Imperial crown surmounts the picture and the border is filled in with ferns. This was a prize design drawn by Mr. M. Tannenberg.



Captain Phillip became the first governor of the new colony and remained so for nearly five years. His features are presented to us on the 20 shilling stamp which was the first of the series issued and which is perhaps the neatest and most artistic of the set. Had the original design been a little more closely followed and then engraved in *taille-douce* it would have been most effective; but the pale blue color, the general indistinctness of detail, due to the method of production, and the added ornamentation of fern fronds around the medallions where sprays of "Christmas bells" only were originally, have rather spoiled the effect of what might have been a philatelic gem. The larger medallion, resembling a coin and bearing the denomination, has a portrait of the Rt. Hon. Charles Robert, Baron Carrington, then Governor of New South Wales, and bears the date of the centennial year, while the medallion bearing Capt. Phillip's likeness is much smaller and partly hidden behind the former, to convey the idea of distance, and is labelled 1788. This was one of the prize designs and is the work of Mrs. F. W. Stoddard.



Though the first prize design for the 2 pence was won by Miss Devine it was not used, as it bore another portrait of Lord Carrington; in its place and also in place of the prize design for the 8 pence were substituted two designs by the same lady which were not prize winners but which exhibited two birds peculiar to the continent of Australia. The 2 pence shows the emu (also spelled *emu* and *emew*) which is a cousin of the ostrich, though smaller. It is a brownish gray, dowdy looking bird whose plumage rather resembles long curly hair than feathers; but these feathers are almost unique in being double, that is the quill is split into two "mid-ribs," a peculiarity shared only by the cassowary, a near relative. The nest is simply a hollow in the sand and the eggs are a dark bottle green color but, whereas both birds take turns at incubation in the case of the ostrich, the male emu is the only one that sets. Formerly the birds roamed over the whole continent but they have now been driven far inland and their numbers are rapidly diminishing. Around this central picture the border of the stamp is filled in with what are said to be the berries of the lilly-pilly or Australian myrtle, the corea or native fuchsia, and "feathery sprays of wattle" or Australian acacia.

The 8 pence shows the lyre-bird, so called from the remarkable and beautiful form of its tail which it elevates and displays after the manner of peacocks and, like them, uses to charm the female when courting. It adds the curious custom, however, of constructing little mounds at that time which it uses as pedestals for posing. The bird is about the size of a hen and is very shy and difficult to approach. But one egg is laid in a dome shaped covered nest with a single entrance. The male is said to be a most excellent mimic, especially of the songs of other birds. The picture on the stamp is surrounded by flowers of the waratah and honeysuckle.



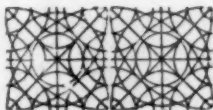
The one shilling was not a prize design at all, but was made up by the authorities apparently as a companion piece to the two stamps last described. It represents a Kangaroo which was photographed in the museum for the purpose. This animal, as is well known, is another one of the peculiarities of Australasian fauna. It hardly needs description here as it is more or less familiar to every one by pictures, specimens in museums, and many accounts in story and natural history. But perhaps the first record of its existence is not so well known and may prove interesting. The neighborhood of Cookstown in Queensland claims the honor of supplying the first example of the animal which was brought to Europe and astonished the zoölogists of that time by the singularity of its form and reported habits.

Capt. Cook happened—in July, 1770—to be laying up his ship, the *Endeavour*, for repairs, after narrowly escaping total wreck on the neighboring Great Barrier reef. Foraging parties, dispatched to secure if possible fresh meat or game for the ship's well nigh exhausted larder, returned with reports of a strange creature of which they subsequently secured specimens. Cook writes in his journal: "With the first dawn they set out in search of game, and in a walk of many miles they saw four animals of the same kind, two of which Mr Bank's greyhound chas d, but they threw him out at a great distance by leaping over the long thick grass, which prevented his running. This animal was observed not to run upon four legs, but to bound or hop forward upon two. It is called by the natives "Kangaroo." Around the picture are filled in waratah, flannel or mullen, and other native flowers and shrubs.



The 6 pence stamp calls for no special mention except that the four stars in the upper part represent the constellation of the Southern Cross and the colony's coat-of-arms is seen in the lower right portion. The design is filled in with Australian flowers including the waratah, wattle or acacia blossoms, ferns and heath. This was one of the first prize designs and was the work of Mr. M. Tannenberg.

The Australian colonies joined the Universal Postal Union on January 1, 1891, when the $2\frac{1}{2}$ pence rate of course came into force for foreign correspondence. In New South Wales this value had not previously existed, so that a new stamp was necessary. To have it conform to the Centennial issue the design was adapted from one for the 6 pence value, by Miss Devine, which received second prize in the competition. The original had "One Hundred Years" on the banner, which was replaced by the Australian motto "Advance Australia." With this stamp came the practical close of the commemorative designs, other values added thereafter being simply old designs in new colors or surcharges.



Twentieth Century Stamp Collecting.

CRAWFORD CAPEN.

Stamp collecting at the present time is a different thing from what it was twenty or thirty years ago. It is interesting to note the way in which those who are now beginning collecting start in the work. It frequently happens that the first thoughts that are expressed by a new collector are precisely the same as those that were common in the "seventies". The old idea that a stamp is a stamp, even if it is only a piece of a stamp, crops out occasionally. The new collector of to-day, however, soon discerns the signs of the times. He learns very quickly that condition counts and that a collection of stamps not in fine condition is scarcely considered a collection among those who devote themselves to stamps in the twentieth century. It was only natural that there should be a complete and entire reaction from the original idea in relation to the condition of stamps. The notion that a piece of a stamp was enough to fill a space in an album naturally gave place to the idea of perfection as that which must be possessed by a collection. The collector in this stage of his evolution made his appearance with millimeter guage and dividers. The stamp must be just so long and wide, and have precisely the same amount of paper showing along the margin, between the straight edge or perforation and the outer line of the stamp. This space must be equal on all sides. If unused, the stamp must have full gum and some even went so far as never to take stamps which had been hinged. Cancelled stamps must have no cancellation on the center but what cancellation they did have must be clear and decided. There certainly can be no objection to stamps which reach this ideal of perfection, but the collectors who demanded such perfection very soon found that it was impossible to make collections of stamps approaching in any way to completeness.

There are few countries where postage stamps have apparently been made exclusively for the benefit of the stamp collector and it is only recently that attention has been given to the matter of perforating to such an extent, that a considerable proportion of the stamps of any country come in perfect condition.

One who goes back to the issues made in the early days of stamp collecting and undertakes to gather them in considerable numbers, knows that the ideal of perfect centering is an impossible one.

One cannot apply to such stamps as those of Victoria such a rule as that the stamp shall be entirely on the paper, for very few of the stamps of this country are found in which the perforation does not cut the design on one side or the other.

There can be little question that the stamps that will hold their value best, and will most interest the collectors of all future time will be those of the nineteenth century—the Victorian Era. The sixty years of stamp issuing, included within that century, contain examples of all kinds and grades of workmanship from the coarsest to the finest. It may be possible that some time in the future a new method of manufacture may be devised which will produce stamps of higher grade than any which the nineteenth century can offer us but, until such an event shall occur, the wide range and fine quality of

the stamps of that century, together with the fact that all kinds of workmanship and almost every possible device in the way of design is to be found upon them, will make these stamps most popular.

The modified and sensible view in relation to collecting, the one which exists most widely among collectors of the present, is to be satisfied with the best possible specimens. Starting with this idea, one may build up a most valuable and perfect collection. The appearance in it of even a bad specimen of a stamp which is not obtainable in any other condition, is derogatory neither to the value nor the excellence of a collection. We may mention, for example, one of the best collections in this country wherein may be found a badly damaged copy of the ten cent Baltimore stamp. There are only three specimens of this known and only one of them can be called perfect. The stamp in its ordinary condition, that is the condition of two out of three, is worth several thousands of dollars.

It is much rarer than the first issue of Mauritius, and is a prize even in its poorest shape. The difficulty with the collector who even allows to himself the possibility of placing an injured stamp in his collection is that he will not discriminate, as such collectors will frequently take stamps which are easily procurable in fine condition and allow them a place which should never be occupied by anything except a fine specimen. The good specimen is the only specimen when such a stamp is obtainable. There is no question that the desire for fine stamps will continue and will increase among collectors.

This is, however, the very best sign of the permanency of our pursuit—for it removes at once from the number of collectable specimens a large number of stamps which would otherwise make many varieties altogether too common. This brings us to a thought which follows as a natural sequence, that is the changing as to collecting itself which is taking place, and has taken place in the past. It is strange how the fashion changes in relation to the stamps of one's own country. United States stamps in this country were considered of little value in 1870. Almost all varieties then in use passed from one collector to another at the lowest possible rates of exchange. The issue of Department stamps in 1873, with the great difficulty that then existed in securing specimens of many varieties, particularly in unused condition, was the beginning of the desire for United States issues. Many things, however, which at the present time are considered desirable were looked upon then with dislike. Collectors regarded the sets of re-issues of 1875 as the poorest of rubbish and would have none of them especially the 1861 set which was then re-issued. The result of this is the exceeding rarity at the present time of the stamps, particularly the set of 1861, and the consequent desire on the part of every collector to have them among his possessions.

The revival of stamp collecting which took place in 1890 and the following years, produced a renewed interest in United States stamps which caused them to advance in price with the greatest rapidity. These, however, were not the days in which condition was considered as it is at the present time. The prices of United States stamps were pushed up by speculative collectors to very high rates. They went beyond the value of the average specimen. The reaction which followed caused them to drop back not only to actual market price but also in the esteem of collectors generally. The issues of this country, however, are the best that have been made in any land. They are of great variety and possess many points of historical interest. They are not common, if one looks for fine condition, and fine condition is a thing which can be had in United States stamps. There are very few varieties which cannot be secured well centered and lightly cancelled. These fine stamps are worth the prices asked for them at the present time. The grow-

ing desire for fine specimens will cause them before long to reach their proper place in the esteem of collectors, and our United States issues will once more lead among those which are in general demand. The effect of the speculation so rife five or six years ago, through the desire of speculators to realize on their purchases, was the temporary injury of stamp collecting. The speculator, in the sense of one who is an accumulator of large quantities of stamps with the idea of selling them at a profit, has passed away. No one has arisen to take his place. Speculative collectors used to furnish the dealers with their stock. Dealers cannot afford to buy enough to last them for many years particularly when it comes to the purchasing of stamps of high value. Speculative collectors, however, one taking the stamps of one country and another of another, have furnished the dealer with specimens for genuine collectors long after his own stock has become exhausted. It is likely that many issues of the last few years of the century will be found to be quite scarce, simply because no one has speculated in them. The conditions at the opening of the twentieth century are most favorable. The outlook is for steady straight-forward collecting of the stamps of all countries by collectors interested in collecting pure and simple.



Provisional Stamps of Columbia.

BY DR. G. MICHELSEN, CONSUL GENERAL AND SECRETARY OF LEGATION
OF COLUMBIA IN GERMANY.

(From the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* by permission.)

Collectors who are interested in the stamps of Columbia have observed with displeasure the large number of provisional stamps which have appeared in various parts of that country within the last few years, ostensibly on account of the war.

As a result of investigations which I have made on the spot, through my numerous acquaintances there, I find the assumption of collectors that these provisional stamps were only a speculative product, and not genuine issues for postal purposes, is correct, and I have come to the same conclusion.

When, in 1899, the first provisional stamps were issued in Cartagena, a friend of mine wished to send me a few of these auxiliary stamps, but when she went to buy them from the postmaster she was told that the provisional stamps were sold out; on the other hand, they could sell you the regular stamps—that is, the Columbian stamps current at that time. The same thing happened with the subsequent issues up to that of 1902. To them belong, in addition to the eight stamps illustrated here, those described in the Kohl



Catalogue, page 108, Nos. 7 and 8, as well as those surcharged with a star (page 109, Nos. 9 and 10.) But, during the whole time, the provisional stamps could be obtained from the officials of the post office for two or three times their face value. It can, therefore, clearly be perceived that we have here a purely speculative issue, which was put into circulation by some officials for the benefit of certain preferred dealers and for their own profit.

It is noteworthy that of the many communications and printed papers that I received, in my official capacity, from Cartagena during the whole of the war there was never a single one prepaid with any provisional stamp, but every one with regular stamps of Columbia. This proves that in the post office at Cartagena, during the whole of the time of the so-called provisional stamps, there was on hand a sufficiency of the regular stamps that they were supposed to take the place of, so that the issue of emergency stamps was superfluous.



The postage stamps issued in Cúcuta by the insurgents in 1900 are no better. Cúcuta was at that time occupied for several months by the revolutionary troops, and their leader, Gen. Vargas Santos, by a decree ordered the issue of postage stamps. But, as Cúcuta was surrounded by the government troops and could, consequently, have no communication with the outside world, the stamps were superfluous. A few letters for abroad were forwarded by way of Venezuela by a private postal company, and these bear the stamps of the so-called provisional government together with the stamps of the Company. (Correo del Comercio—Cúcuta.) These letters were delivered to the addressees without any charge for postage due; but this is not to be taken as proof that the stamps were issued regularly and for postal purposes. Everybody knows that letters which do not bear the tax mark (T) of the country of origin are to be considered by the foreign postal authorities as properly prepaid—"sauf erreur évidente" says the postal convention. As the letters coming from Cúcuta that we are speaking of bore a stamp and no remark concerning insufficient prepayment, they could not be taxed abroad.

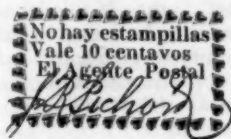
Pagó \$ 0.01
El Agente Postal
Manuel E. Jiménez.



Precisely the same thing happened with the so called Tumaco provisionals. Tumaco, on the west coast of Columbia, was at one time blockaded alternately by the government and by the insurgents, cutting off all intercourse with the outside world. Notwithstanding that, an inventive postmaster found a way to issue provisional stamps and even to send abroad a few letters prepaid with them, which were delivered to the addressee without charge, on the same ground as those from Cúcuta. I heard that this postmaster was suspended from his office on account of the unauthorized issue of these provisionals, for, according to the Columbian postal regulations the issue of provisional stamps is positively prohibited. In case of postage stamps generally,

or even in case of a single value, running short, the postmaster must himself make a note of this on each shipment, mentioning the amount of the postage, but under no circumstances must he issue special stamps.

In Barranquilla, a far more important post office than Cartegena—in fact, the most important post office in Columbia—at the beginning of this year the stock of stamps was exhausted; but the postmaster did not issue any provisionals; by means of a hand stamp he noted on each postal article the lack of postage stamps and that so much postage had been paid. His colleague in Cartegena ought to have acted in precisely the same way, if really he did have no more postage stamps in stock.



With regard to the stamps of Rio Hacha (See the Kohl catalog, page 588), so far as I know they are not a bit better. It is related that the postmaster there issued the stamps in collusion with an American, and the latter bought them immediately.

Rio Hacha, like Cúcuta and Tumaco, was in the hands of the insurgents, and therefore without postal communication, but this as we see, did not prevent the provisional stamps from being issued there also, solely to plunder collectors, as a knowledge of the circumstances clearly shows.



It is also much to be regretted that in these last few years the postal administration of Antioquia is issuing unnecessary stamps continuously and thereby killing the interest of philatelists in the collection of Colombian postage stamps. Until now, with the exception of the provisional issues which I have just enumerated, no stamp has been issued in Columbia and the States belonging thereto which was not intended really for postal purposes. Antioquia only has been an exception, and I consider the issues which have appeared since 1891 as more or less speculative stamps and intended only for philatelists. Nothing can justify the simultaneous issue each time since 1891 of two different sets of postage stamps. At first it was said that one set was intended for inland postage and the other for foreign postage; this, however, will not answer, as Antioquia, according to the existing postal regulations of Columbia, has not the right to prepay letters for abroad with Antioquian stamps.

We must mention also the so-called errors of the issue of 1896. It has been asserted that these were specially ordered. Those stamps were prepared and delivered by the American Bank Note Company, in New York, and it

seems really incredible that such an institution, on so small a quantity of postage stamps, as had to be delivered for Antioquia, should have delivered so many stamps without the center piece and in wrong colors, unless this had been specially desired. Or, could so many proofs have been asked for?

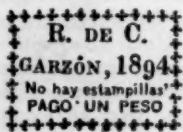
To the Antioquian postal administration belongs also the doubtful honor of having issued the first jubilee set in Columbia.

For many years I have zealously collected Columbian stamps as a specialty; but, since I have been convinced that speculation is involved in the putting in circulation of the Antioquian postage stamps, I no longer place these stamps in my collection. I have been told that the manufacturer and purveyor of the stamps of Antioquia is at the same time one of the largest postage stamp dealers there. If this be so, the explanation of the unnecessary issues of that state is to be found in that fact.

I will take this opportunity to give some information in regard to some other and earlier so-called provisional stamps of Columbia, which have as little claim to be collected as the above-mentioned provisionals, viz.: the Cauca, Garzon and Honda stamps.

The first (See the Kohl catalog, page 109) were never issued officially; Mr. Curtis, an American, who was employed by the Atrato Mining Company in Guibdó, discovered them. I will not doubt the good faith of this gentleman; but I can certainly affirm that the stamps were never in circulation. For that they would have to be national stamps. But the State of Cauca has so far had no stamps of its own, and, as I myself pointed out to Mr. Curtis at the time, there was neither in the post offices of Guibdó and Popayan nor in the archives of the General Post Office in Bogotá the slightest indication to be found of the existence of these stamps. Mr. Curtis, later, when I was no longer in Columbia, published the alleged decree of the Prefect of Atrato, Salomon Posso; but, according to reliable information which I received at that time from Popayan, the opinion was that somebody had imposed on Mr. Curtis's credulity, seeing that in the archives there nothing with regard to such a decree could be found.

The papers which Mr. Curtis published at that time were signed by a certain Emiliano Rey, and when, a few years later, I returned to Columbia I tried to obtain an affidavit from the man (who, by the way, had become Mr. Curtis's attorney), and for this purpose had him summoned before the court. He did not appear, but left Guibdó secretly, which I take as a proof that the man did not have a clear conscience.



The matter of the provisionals of Garzon (see the Kohl catalogue, page 231), is also very interesting. I received knowledge of the existence of these stamps at the time, when I was in Bogotá, through the foreign philatelic press, and immediately made inquiries of the postmaster in Garzon with regard to these stamps. From him I learned that the postmaster who was there formerly had in the meantime been transferred, and neither in the books nor in the archives of the post office was anything about these stamps to be found. On inquiry at the Post Office Department in Bogotá, I was in-

formed that there also nothing was known of the alleged provisional stamps; they could, however, assure me *a priori* that the postmaster had been guilty of a misdemeanor, as he had not been authorized to issue provisional stamps. Disciplinary proceedings were taken against the former postmaster on behalf of the Post Office Department. The postmaster stated that he had not issued the stamps, but had merely marked a few stamps to please a friend. But he was suspended from his functions.

These Garzon stamps are also the speculative product of a certain Milciades Lara.

The stamps of Honda are also speculative articles. A shrewd speculator bought several sheets of the current 2 centavos stamp, had the same surcharged "Habilitado—Vale \$0.01—Honda" (see the Kohl catalogue, page 290), and used the same for the prepayment of printed matter, which had to pay only 1c postage. As the stamps were bought at the full face value, and the postage on the printed matter was only 1c, they were allowed to circulate without interference until the Post Office Department in Bogotá had its attention called to them, and then it confiscated those stamps which were found in the possession of the speculator.

In concluding I will mention the reason for the decline in the price of current Columbian stamps, which, at present, are offered from all sides in large quantities at ridiculously low prices, unused or with any desired postmark. The reason for this is to be found in the low value of the paper money, which is as low as 20,000 per cent. (therefore, \$1 = $\frac{1}{2}$ cent gold = 2 pfennig)

The peace just concluded will certainly change these unhappy circumstances. According to telegrams which have reached here within the last few days, it is already known that the value of the paper money has gone up considerably.



The New United States Stamps.

The new series of United States stamps shows the best work which the Bureau of Engraving and Printing has produced up to the present time. Opinions, however, do not agree as to the unqualified excellence of both workmanship and design. Most Americans will undoubtedly be pleased with the new series, but it may be held by some that that portion of the criticism from the N. Y. Times referring to the crowded condition of the designs is justified to some extent.

It is well enough to produce a few stamps of ornate design but if this extends through the whole series and all the stamps present the same or similar features the effect of the whole is, at the best that can be said, not so pleasing as it might well be. Some stamps of plainer appearance in the series would serve to set off the others and attract attention to their ornamentation.

"THE NEW TWO-CENT STAMP.

"The purchaser of postage stamps at the window of the General Office is now supplied with stamps of the two-cent denomination which he is likely to regard with feelings akin to those which would take possession of him if some one should substitute for his favorite picture a tea store chromo. The stamp we are used to and which met every requirement of the Postal Service and the public taste was simple, dignified, and in every way appropriate. The picture was a profile of Houdin's bust of WASHINGTON, which the designer did not consider it necessary to label. The new stamp gives us WASHINGTON in full face, and is probably a caricature of one of GILBERT STUART's many portraits. The face is smug and weakly amiable, and might be taken for ADAMS, MADISON, or MONROE if not labeled WASHINGTON to make sure that no one will doubt for whom it is intended. The border, ridiculously ornate, is composed of draped flags and what seems to be 'hands' of tobacco. It is more or less smutted in the printing, which is inevitable when microscopic and unimportant detail is overcrowded. The only excuse for a change would be an improvement, and if this is what was aimed at it must be confessed that the experts of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing will never win trophies for marksmanship. The change is to be regretted."





CHINA.—One of our correspondents has shown us a stamp of the 1897 issue, the 5c on 5c yellow with the surcharge in small figures, in a vertical pair, imperforate between.



COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC—Mr. J. C. Morgenthau has shown us a number of oddities of this country, most of them probably printers' waste and of very little value, but we note them for what they are worth. These consist of blocks, showing the 1c of 1892 (No. 148) imperforate and imperforate vertically; the 5c of 1895-96 (No. 158) imperforate, imperforate vertically and imperforate horizontally; the 5c of 1897 (No. 159) imperforate; the 20c of the same issue (No. 160) imperforate vertically; and the 5c of 1899 (No. 163) imperforate vertically.



ANTIOQUIA—Mr. J. A. Klemann has shown us several varieties in the 1889 issue. These are the 1, 4 and 10 centavos in vertical pairs, without perforation between, and the 1 centavo and 2 pesos imperforate horizontally.



TOLIMA.—Mr. J. C. Morgenthau has also shown us some blocks of imperforate and part perforate stamps of this state. These include the 1 and 2c of 1895 (Nos 66 and 67) imperforate and imperforate horizontally, and the 20c of the same issue (No. 69) imperforate.



FRANCE.—Mr. J. C. Morgenthau has shown us an imperforate pair of the 15c of 1882 on quadrille paper.



FRENCH OFFICES IN ALEXANDRIA.—We show herewith the types of the new series:



FRENCH OFFICES IN CHINA.—Mr. C. A. Howes writes us in regard to these stamps: "I find the surcharges for French Offices on the Indo Chinese stamps are as follows:

On the	1 centime,	2-5 cent
"	2 "	4-5 "
"	4 "	3-5 "
"	5 "	2 cents
"	10 "	4 "
"	15 "	6 "
"	20 "	8 "
"	25 "	10 "
"	30 "	12 "
"	40 "	16 "
"	50 "	2 dimes
"	75 "	3 "
"	1 franc	4 "
"	5 "	2 dollars

This is all Mexican money, of course."



FRENCH OFFICES IN MOROCCO—Among a lot of other oddities, Mr. J. C. Morgenthau has shown us imperforate blocks of the 1891-93 issue, 5c on 5c green and 25c on 25c black on rose.



FRENCH OFFICES IN ZANZIBAR.—We show also the types of the new stamps for these offices.



GREAT BRITAIN.—Offices in the Levant.—We illustrate two recently issued stamps:



HAYTI.—Among some stamps recently received with the provisional government surcharge, we find three with double surcharges which have not hitherto been chronicled,—the 4c red, 15c olive and 1g lilac.

HUNGARY.—We have seen the 10 filler carmine of the 1900 series in an imperforate pair. This was shown us by J. C. Morgenthau.



MARTINIQUE.—Mr. Morgenthau has shown us a block of the 1c Unpaid Letter stamp of the 1887 issue of which the lower stamps are without surcharge.



PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—Several of our contemporaries report that between the 5th and 16th September, 1902, the stock of the 1c postage stamps ran rather low and Postage Due stamps of that denomination were used to frank local letters, about four thousand copies being used for that purpose.



QUEENSLAND.—We reprint the following from the *Australian Journal of Philately*:

"We have received from Mr. R. Abraham, of Townsville, Queensland, for inspection a used 6d. Queensland stamp received by him in the ordinary course of business three months ago. This stamp is supposed to be the current type with figures in four corners, but, strange to relate, it has only the figures in the lower corners. It certainly has not been tampered with as there are scrolls in the two upper corners, and is really the same type as the 1d. with figures in lower corners, issued in 1896 (Gibbons' type 18). In every respect, but with one exception, the stamp referred to is identical with the 6d. with figures in four corners, and we are at a loss to know how such a curiosity comes about, as this type has been in use for the past three years and we have never heard of it before. We cannot say at the present moment whether only one of this variety appears in a sheet or in a block of 4, or whether only one or more entire sheets have been printed similarly. The fact that it has been in our correspondent's hands for at least three months is proof that it is not quite a new issue, it does not look like it, and the fact also that such a discovery has not been made before proves that it must be very uncommon to have escaped the eagle eyes of all Australian philatelists except one.

"We have written to the Deputy Postmaster-General of Brisbane, asking him to elucidate the mystery, and we hope to be able to tell our readers all about it next month; in the meantime we would suggest to those who have any, to examine them carefully and hold on to them pending definite information regarding this peculiarity, for it must be considered as such."



RUSSIA.—We have seen two more stamps on vertically laid paper, the 2 and 35 kopecs. The *London Philatelist* chronicles the 1 and 5 kopecs and the *P. J. G. B.* insists that the 1 rouble exists on vertically laid paper, in spite of statements to the contrary, since the editor has seen and handled copies in this condition.

Mr. J. C. Morgenthau has shown us the 1 rouble with thunder-bolts in both vertical and horizontal pairs, without perforation between.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—We illustrate the £1 stamp of the new series.





UNITED STATES.—We have seen three more stamps of the 1902 series. The design of the 1c is rather pleasing, that of the 2c disappointing and that of the 5c distinctly ugly.

The 1c has a portrait of Franklin, similar to that which appeared on the 1847 issue. At the sides are caryatides, and the remainder of the space is occupied by inscriptions and dates in accord with the other stamps of the series.

The 2c has a portrait of Washington which is new to stamp collectors, and certainly is not an improvement on those which have been used in previous issues. The Father of his Country looks more like a rummy old tavern keeper than the distinguished statesman and general that we have been accustomed to regard him. The flags at the sides, about which we have heard so much, are indistinct, and, thanks to the style of the engraving and overinking, the whole appearance is blotchy.

The 5c is the worst of the series. We are all aware that President Lincoln was not a handsome man, but it would seem that the portrait selected for this stamp was unnecessarily homely. And the contrast between this large head and the small figures at the sides, which are full length, is unpleasing—the things seem to be so disproportionate.

While some of the stamps of the new series are very pleasing, notably the 13 cents, we cannot but feel that these crowded and over-decorated designs are not an improvement upon the dignified and artistic simplicity of the issues of 1870 and 1890.

Mr. J. S. Rich has shown us the

stamp of the Postal Telegraph-Cable Co for 1903 and also an unchronicled variety of the Colusa, Lake & Mendocino Telegraph Co., a 25c red, a denomination hitherto uncatalogued. Two of these latter stamps were found laid away in an old envelope of the Telegraph Company. Their antecedents are beyond reproach, and the design is undoubtedly the same as that of other values with an alteration of the numerals.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked U. S. P. S.

Perforated 12.

1c yellow green

2c carmine

5c ultramarine

Telegraph stamps.

Colusa, Lake & Mendocino Telegraph Co.

25c red

Postal Telegraph-Cable Co.

No value, blue

ANGOLA.—We have received for this and various other Portuguese Colonies a large number of stamps of the design which appeared in 1898. Some of these are in new colors, others are new values. We shall list them without further comment.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

Type of 1898 issue.

15r gray green

25r carmine

50r brown

65r dull blue

75r lilac

115r orange brown on pink

130r brown on straw

400r dull blue on straw

AUSTRALIAN COMMON-WEALTH.—The 1p Postage Due stamp has appeared with the blank space at the bottom filled in to match the design of the upper part of the stamp.

Postage Due stamp.

Watermarked Crown and N. S. W.
Perforated.

1p emerald green

BAHAMAS.—We have received three new values in the Queen's Staircase design.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated 14.

Watermarked Crown and C. C.

5p orange and black

2sh ultramine and black

3sh sage green and black

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—We have seen new 1p and 1sh stamps with portrait of King Edward VII. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports a ½p of the same series. The two which we have seen are rather pleasing designs and vary somewhat from the monotony of the King's Head stamps of other colonies. We illustrate the 1p herewith.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Anchor.



Perforated 14.

½p green

1p carmine

1sh bistre

CAPE VERDE.—

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

Type of 1898 issue.

15r gray green

25r carmine

50r brown

65r dull blue

75r lilac

115r orange brown on pink

130r brown on straw

400r dull blue on straw

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—Last month we chronicled three values of the new series. We have now seen the full series (at least we hope it has reached completion) and also a Registration stamp. We give the entire list, including the three stamps previously chronicled.

Adhesive stamps.



Perforate 12.

1c green on straw

2c salmon on rose

5c blue on greenish

5c dark blue on greenish

10c pale brown on straw

20c purple on rose

50c dull rose on greenish

1p black on yellow

5p slate on bluish

10p dark brown on rose

Registration stamp.



Perforate 12.

Laid Paper.

10c blackish violet

COREA.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* illustrates a new Commemorative stamp for this country and speaks of it as follows:

"The stamp is inscribed 'XL. Ann. Jubilé d'Avènement' (40 years Jubilee of the Accession), that is to say, the fortieth anniversary of the reigning monarch's accession to the throne. The Emperor of Corea is Yi Huing, and he was born in 1852, made King in 1864, and proclaimed Emperor in 1897, after the country had received its independence as a result of the Chino-Japanese War. If the date 1864 is correct (and we give it on the authority of Whitaker), the present issue would seem to be somewhat premature. The inscriptions are entirely in French or Chinese, no Korean characters occurring on the stamp. *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-poste* says that the plate was engraved by Japanese workman at the Kyong San mint in the suburbs of Séoul."

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated.

cheun orange

COSTA RICA.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* says that "specimen" copies of a new provisional are being circulated from headquarters of the Postal Union at Berne. The stamp is the 2c of the 1900 issue, surcharged "PROVISORIO OFICIAL" in two lines, in green ink.

Adhesive stamp.

Provisional issue.

Perforated.

Green surcharge

2c vermilion and black

ECUADOR.—*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* reports the 5c stamp overprinted "Rios".

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated.

Black surcharge.

5c lilac and black

EGYPT—Soudan.—Several European journals report the appearance of the 1 and 5 piastres stamps in new colors, but do not state whether the stamps are on the old paper or on the new one in which the watermarks are

placed closer together. The *Collectionneur de Timbres Poste* also chronicles an envelope of the so-called Camel type, that of the current adhesives.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Star and Crescent.

Perforated.

1pi red and black

10pi violet and brown

Envelope.

5 mills rose

FRANCE.—The 15 centimes stamp of the altered type has appeared.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated.

15c pale red

French Offices in Morocco.—According to *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, the 10 centimes of the current French type has been added to the issues of these offices.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated.

Black surcharge

10c on 10c carmine.

GERMANY.—Mr. C. Witt has shown us two of the new official stamps, which are to be used in Prussia during the year 1903.

We illustrate one of them herewith. It will be seen that the design is the same as that of the lower values of the current series, with the portrait of Germania replaced by an inscription in four lines.

Official stamps.



Perforated.

5pf green

10pf carmine

GUINEA.—*Adhesive stamps.*

Perforated.

Type of 1898 issue.

- 15r gray green
- 25r carmine
- 50r brown
- 65r dull blue
- 75r lilac
- 115r orange brown on pink
- 130r brown on straw
- 400r dull blue on straw

HAYTI.—The *Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal* reports that various postal cards have been overprinted with the provisional government surcharge.

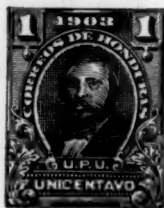
Postal cards.

Provisional issue.

Black surcharge.

- 1c blue on white
- 2c orange on rose
- 3c pale green on yellowish
- 1x1c blue on grayish
- 2x2c orange on red lilac
- 3x3c pale green on lilac

HONDURAS.—The new issue, which we announced in our December number, has appeared. We illustrate the design herewith.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

- 1c emerald green
- 2c carmine rose
- 5c blue
- 6c purple
- 10c brown
- 20c ultramarine
- 50c vermilion
- 1p orange

ICELAND.—We illustrate the type of the new issue. It is said that the new official stamps differ from those of the regular issue only in having "PJONUSTU" instead of "FRIMERKI" at the right.

The colors of the new official stamps are reported as follows:

*Official stamps.*

Watermarked Crown.

Perforated.

- 3a orange and brown
- 4a deep green and brown
- 5a brown red and brown
- 10a deep blue and brown
- 16a carmine and brown
- 20a green and brown
- 50a violet and brown

INDIA.—"Specimen" copies of two more values of the King Edward series have appeared. The ½ anna of the same series has been surcharged "on H. M. S." and a Registration envelope with the King's head has been issued.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked Star.

Perforated.

- 2a purple
- 3a orange brown

Official stamp.

Black surcharge.

- ½a light green

Registration envelope.

Size 133x83mm.

- 2a blue

INHAMBANE.—This is a new comer among the Portuguese Colonies and appears in quite an extensive series. The 500r has the numerals in carmine, the others in black.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

- 2½r gray
 5r orange yellow
 10r light green
 15r gray green
 20r gray violet
 25r carmine
 50r brown
 65r dull blue
 75r lilac
 100r dull blue on blue
 115r orange brown on pink
 130r brown on straw
 200r violet on pink
 400r dull blue on straw
 500r black on blue
 700r gray black on straw

LEEWARD ISLANDS.—The *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* gives the following list of new stationery for these islands, all with the head of the King.

Registration envelope.

Size 151x95 mm.

2p blue

Wrappers.

Size 125 x 300 mm.

½p green on buff

1p carmine on buff

Postal Cards.

½p green on carmine, size 121x74 mm

1p carmine on cream " 140x88mm

1x1p " " " 140x90mm

LOURENZO MARQUES.—*Adhesive stamps.*

Perforated.

Type of 1898 issue.

- 15r gray green
 25r carmine
 50r brown
 65r dull blue
 75r lilac
 115r orange brown on pink
 130r brown on straw
 400r dull blue on straw

LIBERIA.—Mr. H. L. Hayman has kindly sent us various new issues. The stamps are all finely engraved and printed and have the characteristics

of the work of Messrs. Waterlow & Sons. We shall illustrate the design in our next number. The stamps are: a 3 cents black with head of Liberty, wearing a helmet wreathed in laurel, and inscribed "LIBERIA—INLAND POSTAGE" above and value below; the same stamp printed in green and surcharged in red "o s" in script capitals, in the upper left corner; five registration stamps of large size (21½x34 mm.) each having a portrait (presumably that of the President of the Republic) in the centre, surrounded by scroll work and inscriptions including the names of the five principal towns of the country.

Adhesive stamp.

Unwatermarked.

Perforated 14.

3c black

Official stamp.

Unwatermarked.

Perforated 14.

Red surcharge.

3c green

Registration stamps.

Unwatermarked.

Perforated 14.

10c blue and black, Buchanan

10c vermilion and black, Grenville

10c green and black, Harper

10c purple and black, Monrovia

10c magenta and black, Robertsport

MACAO.—*Adhesive stamps.*

Perforated.

Type of 1898 issue.

2a gray green

3a slate

4a carmine

5a pale yellow brown

6a red brown

8a gray brown

10a dull blue

12a lilac

13a gray violet

18a orange brown on pink

20a brown on straw

31a violet on pink

47a dull blue on straw

MALTA.—The *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* reports a new Registration envelope with head of King Edward VII.

Registration envelope.

Size 151x95mm.

2p blue

MOZAMBIQUE.

Adhesive stamps.

Type of 1898 issue.

15r gray green

25r carmine

50r brown

65r dull blue

75r lilac

115r orange brown on pink

130r brown on straw

400r dull blue on straw

NATAL.—Various of our European contemporaries report the appearance of the two pence stamp of the new series, and the *Mitteldeutsche Philatelisten Zeitung* announces "specimen" copies of five of the higher values.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Crown and C. A.

Perforated 14.

2p olive green and carmine

Watermarked Crown and C. C.

£1 blue and dark gray

£1 10sh violet and green

£5 gray and violet

£10 green and orange

£20 green and red

NEW SOUTH WALES.—From various journals we learn that stamps for official use in this state and other states of the Commonwealth are now being perforated with various letters, as it is not permitted by law for them to be surcharged.

The following are chronicled:

Official stamp.

Perforated "O. S."

1p rose

Perforated "O. S.—N. S. W", in two lines.

1p rose

2p ultramarine

6p orange

Perforated "G. R." (Government Railways.)

1p rose

NEW ZEALAND.—We have received two more of the Picture series on the new paper watermarked single-lined N. Z. and Star.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

Watermarked single-lined N. Z. and star.

4p yellow brown and blue

1sh brown red

NICARAGUA.—We have received four values of the handsome new series.

Adhesive stamps.



Perforated 12.

1c emerald green and black

2c carmine and black

5c ultramarine and black

10c orange yellow and black

PERSIA.—To our chronicle of the new series we have to add four values. We illustrate the type of the lower values of new issue.

Adhesive stamps.



Perforated.

2k ultramarine

5k yellow brown
 10k rose red
 50k yellow green

PORTUGUESE CONGO.—

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

Type of 1898 issue.

15r gray green
 25r carmine
 50r brown
 65r dull blue
 75r lilac
 115r orange brown on pink
 130r brown on straw
 400r dull blue on straw

PORTUGUESE INDIA.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

Type of 1898 issue.

1 ½r slate
 2 ½r pale yellow brown
 3r dull blue
 9r gray violet
 1t carmine
 2t brown
 2 ½t dull blue
 3t blue
 5t brown on straw
 8t violet on pink
 12t green on pink
 1 rupia dull blue on straw
 2 " gray black on straw

ST. LUCIA.—We have seen a stamp issued to celebrate the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of the islands. We shall illustrate the stamp in our next number. The center, which is printed in green, is a picture of two rocky islets called The Pitons, 3700 feet high; at each side of the design are tropical fruits, a bird of the parrot species and a snake, probably the fer-de-lance. The rest of the design is filled in with various inscriptions, including the dates "1502-1902."

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated 14.

Watermarked Crown and C. C.

2p brown and green

ST. THOMAS & PRINCE ISLANDS.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

Type of 1898 issue.

15r gray green
 25r carmine
 50r brown
 65r dull blue
 75r lilac
 115r orange brown on pink
 130r brown on straw
 400r dull blue on straw

ST. VINCENT.—*Der Philatelist* chronicles a Registration envelope with head of the King.

Registration envelope.

Size 152x98 mm.

2p blue

SALVADOR.—Mr. C. Witt has shown us two values of a new issue. The stamps are handsomely engraved. The central feature of the design is a picture of a monumental group of statuary in an oval panel; "REPUBLICA DE EL SALVADOR" is curved around this; "CORREOS U. P. U." appears in each upper corner; "CENTAVOS" below, with numerals at each end in small circles ornamented with arabesques.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

1c yellow green
 13c brown

SIERRA LEONE.—*Die Post* reports "specimen" sets of the new series with portraits of King Edward.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Crown and C. A.

Perforated 14.

$\frac{1}{2}$ p	violet and green
1p	" " carmine
$1\frac{1}{2}$ p	" " olive
2p	" " brown
$2\frac{1}{2}$ p	" " ultramarine
3p	" " gray
4p	" " carmine
5p	" " black
6p	" " violet
1sh	green and black
5sh	" " carmine
£1	" (?) on red

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—We find in the *Australian Philatelist* the announcement that stamps of the new series of the values of 10 and 20 shillings have been issued. They have not reached us as yet.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$.

Watermarked Crown and S.A., letters close together.

10sh green

20sh blue

SPANISH MOROCCO.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports that the 5, 10 and 25c stamps of Spain have been surcharged "CORREO ESPAÑOL MARRUECOS", diagonally, and have been issued or are about to be issued.

Adhesive stamps.

Black surcharge.

10c red

Red surcharge.

5c dark green

25c blue

STRAITS SETTLEMENT.—

We learn from the *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* that a Registration envelope with head of the King has appeared.

Registration envelope.

Size 130x84mm.

5c blue

TIMOR.**Adhesive stamps.**

Perforated.

Type of 1898 issue.

3a gray green

3a carmine

6a pale yellow green

9a red brown

10a gray brown

12a dull blue

13a lilac

15a violet

22a orange brown on pink

30a brown on straw

47a violet on pink

78a dull blue on straw

TRANSVAAL.—The *Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal* reports an envelope and two postal cards with head of the King.

Envelope.

Size 140x78 mm.

1p carmine

Postal cards.

Size 140x92 mm.

$\frac{1}{2}$ p green on cream.

1p carmine on buff

TASMANIA.—The current 1p stamp is reported perforated with a letter "T" for official use.

Official stamp.

Perforated "T".

1p dull red

TUNIS.—The *Monthly Circular* informs us that the 10 centimes envelope is now printed in rose, instead of in black.

Envelope.

10c rose on bluish

URUGUAY.—We have seen two envelopes for this country. Each bears an embossed portrait. For the lower value, the stamp is rectangular and printed in the upper right corner

of the face of the envelope, for the higher value, it is circular and printed on the upper flap.

Envelopes.

White laid paper.

Size 122x81mm.

5c dark blue

White wove paper, linen lined.

Size 143x122mm.

20c ultramarine

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—We have received two more values of the new series for this country,—the 2 pence of the design which has been current since 1890, but apparently made from a new plate, and the 10 shillings, made from the Victoria 1 penny of 1884-86.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated 12 ½.

Watermarked V and Crown.

2p yellow

10sh purple

ZAMBESI.—

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

Type of 1898 issue

15r gray green

25r carmine

50r brown

65r dull blue

75r lilac

115r orange brown on pink

130r brown on straw

400r dull blue on straw

Communications.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY.

Dear Sir: No doubt you have seen or heard of so-called postage stamps for Benadir (Italian Somali Coast), which are being sold by a trading firm at Milan. Having in mind certain past experiences with Brunei, Nyassa, Sedang and other bogus stamps, we have always looked upon these labels of Benadir with suspicion and have up to the present refused to buy them, we have however been making enquiries by writing letters direct to the place, all of which remained unanswered until we sent an Italian bank note to purchase the stamps, this note has just been returned to us with a letter from which we extract the following:—

"There are no postmasters here and it is forbidden to us officials to have anything to do with postage stamp dealers, the stamps can only be obtained from the Company's office at Milan."

We think this quite sufficient to condemn these labels.

We may add that the letter we received had on it a stamp of British East Africa, and was posted at Kismayu, if any additional evidence was required it is furnished by our envelope which was returned to us, it has been sent to Mombasa, Djibouti and Aden, and is endorsed in French "No postal service with Benadir". Yours faithfully,

WHITFIELD KING & Co.

Dear Sir:

Re Benadir.—In our last letter concerning these labels we omitted to state that the letter we received from Kismayu was sent by the Italian Resident from Jubaland. We have since received a letter from the Societa Anonima Commerciale Italiana del Benadir at Milan, informing us that the entire stock of Benadir "postage stamps" has been sold to an Italian stamp dealer, whose name and address they give us. Exit Benadir!

Yours faithfully,

WHITFIELD KING & Co.

Changes in Catalogue Prices.

A dash (—) means that a price has been dropped.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

7a	1862	15c	10	00	
32	1877	8c on 10c	1	75	
60	1888	5c	1	50	
66	"	40c	1	50	
67	"	50c	1	50	
71	1888-89	5c		20	
82	1890	60c	1	00	
86	1891	1p	2	50	75

CORRIENTES.

4	1864-80	5c	1	00	1	00
6	"	3c		75		75
8	"	2c		60		

AUSTRIA.

27	1864	10kr		50	
28	"	15kr		60	
31	1867	5kr		10	
32	"	10kr		15	
33	"	15kr		50	
34	"	25kr	1	00	
56	1890	12kr		15	
57	"	15kr		18	
60	"	30kr		60	
61	"	50kr		85	
64	1891	20kr		25	
66	"	30kr		35	
67	"	50kr		50	

AUSTRIAN POST OFFICES IN THE LEVANT.

1004	1867	10s		20	
1026	1892	2p on 20p			6

BELGIUM.

7	1851	20c		5	
12	1861	10c		5	
13	"	20c		3	
26	1875-78	25c		50	
27	"	50c	1	00	

BOLIVIA.

16	1871	10c	30	30	
19	"	500c	35	00	
69	1901	5c			5
77	1901-02	2b	2	25	

BOSNIA.

2	1879-94	1n		8	
5	"	3n		10	
5a	"	3n		25	
6	"	5n		12	
6a	"	5n		40	
7	"	10n		15	
7a	"	10n		15	
9	"	20n		50	

BRAZIL.

49	1866	28cr	14	00	14	00
51	"	43cr	17	00	17	00

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

69	1895	3r	8	50	
70	"	5r	10	00	

BRUNSWICK.

4	1853	1sgr			60	
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BULGARIA.

2	1879	10c	2	50	2	00
3	"	25c		65		40
8	1881	10s		1	75	
10	"	25s		3	00	
19	1884-85	3s on 10s	1	75		
43	1896	1s		3		3
44	"	5s		10		5
45	"	15s		10		
46	"	25s		25		
53	1901	5s				5
54	"	15c				10

55	"	5s on 3s	5
56	"	10s on 50s	6
163	1894	25s	25
164	"	5s	25

CANADA.

79	1898	6c	10
80	"	8c	10

CEYLON.

88	1885-84	4c	50
89	"	8c	20

CHILI.

131	1895	4c	50
132	"	6c	50
133	"	8c	85
134	"	10c	85

CHINA.

21	1894	24c	85
39	1897	10c on 12c	85
57	"	30c	75

COLUMBIAN REPUBLIC—ANTIOQUIA.

133	1902	3c	6
134	"	4c	6
135	"	5c	6
136	"	10c	10
137	"	20c	15
138	"	30c	18
139	"	40c	25
140	"	50c	30
204	"	10c	10
252	"	5c	6
302	1901	2½	12

COOK ISLANDS FEDERATION.

15	1898	2½p	30
21	1900	½p	10
21a	"	½p	10

DANISH WEST INDIES.

26	2c on 3c	15	00
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FINLAND.

36	1885	5m	7
37	"	10m	12

FRENCH OFFICES IN CHINA.

1025	1901	5c	3
1026	"	10c	5
1027	"	15c	6
1028	"	30c	12
1019	"	50c	20

FRENCH OFFICES IN CANTON.

1050	1901	1c	4
1051	"	2c	5
1052	"	4c	6
1053	"	5c	4
1054	"	10c	5
1055	"	15c	20
1056	"	15c	10
1057	"	20c	15
1058	"	25c	12
1059	"	30c	25
1060	"	40c	25
1061	"	50c	35
1062	"	75c	50
1063	"	1fr	50
1064	"	5fr	2 00

FRENCH OFFICES IN HOI HAO.

1101	1901	1c	5
1102	"	2c	6
1103	"	4c	6
1104	"	5c	10
1105	"	10c	20
1107	"	15c	15
1108	"	20c	1 50
1109	"	25c	50
1110	"	30c	2 00
1111	"	40c	2 00
1112	"	50c	2 00
1113	"	75c	3 00
1114	"	1fr	12 00
1115	"	5fr	12 00

HAYTI.

68	1902	1c	3
70	"	2c	4
71	"	3c	5
72	"	4c	6
74	"	5c	8
75	"	7c	10
76	"	8c	12
77	"	10c	12
78	"	15c	20
79	"	20c	25
80	"	50c	75
81	"	1g	1 50

JAPANESE OFFICES IN CHINA.

13 1900 1y 1 40

JAPANESE OFFICES IN COREA.

4	1900	5s	10	
5	"	8s	12	
6	"	25s	60	50
7	"	3s	8	6
8	"	4s	10	
9	"	10s		8
10	"	15s		15
11	"	20s		15
12	"	50s	1 00	75
13	"	1y	2 00	1 00
14	"	3s	8	

MOZAMBIQUE CO.

1	1892	5r	2
2	"	10r	3
3	"	20r	4
4	"	25r	5
5	"	40r	6
6	"	50r	8
7	"	100r	10
8	"	200r	15
9	"	300r	25

NETHERLANDS.

51 1891-94 2g 50c 75

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

409	1892	7/8c	15
410	"	1m	15

PORTO RICO.

23 1879 5c 1 25

SIAM.

18 1888-91 1a on 3a 50

VENEZUELA.

105a			4
106			2
107			4
111	1893	10c	3
112	"	25c	3
113	"	50c	3
114	"	1b	5
115	"	3b	25
116	"	10b	1 00
117	"	20b	2 00
127	1899	50c	6
128	"	1b	12
129	"	2b	—
131	1900	10c	2
132	"	25c	4
133	"	50c	2
134	"	1b	12
135	"	2b	20
138	"	25c	4
141	"	3b	20
142	"	10b	25
143	"	20b	50

SETS.

268	Ecuador	40	698	Nyassa	25
473	Horta	25	759	Ponta Delgada	25
513	Japanese Corea	40	787	Portuguese Congo	25
591	Mozambique	25	819	St. Pierre Miquelon	3 00
593	Mozambique Co	15	826	St. Thomas & Prince Is	25
594	"	60	1008	Zambesi	25
678	North Borneo	1 75			

The Collectors Club,

351 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK.

The 88th Meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the club house on Monday evening, January 12, 1903.

Present: Messrs. Andreini, Dewing, Luff, Morgenthau and Scott. Meeting called 8 30 P. M. In the absence of the Secretary, Mr. Luff was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The Secretary read a number of communications.

The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance in bank of \$709 05, exclusive of reserve fund, was accepted as read.

The report of the House Committee was read and accepted.

The Amusement Committee reported that the arrangement for the entertainment to be held at the club house on the evening of Saturday, the 17th inst., have been completed.

The Judges of the Exhibition of Australian Stamps reported as follows:

"TO THE GOVERNORS OF THE COLLECTORS CLUB:

Gentleman:

At the competitive exhibition of one hundred unused Australian stamps for the prizes offered by Stanley Gibbons, Limited, which was held January 8, at the rooms of The Collectors Club, only one collection was entered for competition.

In the opinion of your judges it was deemed unwise to award any of the prizes, your judges suggest that a competition be set for some future date and that wider publicity be given the competition. Respectfully submitted.

J. M. Andreini,
Jos. S. Rich,
J. C. Morgenthau,

The report was approved and recommendation endorsed. Moved, second and carried that the Australian Competitive Exhibition be held in March, at the same time as the Exhibition of U. S. Documentary and Proprietary Revenue Stamps.

The following dates were set for forthcoming exhibitions and the Secretary was instructed to send cards of notification to the members and also to the press:

FEBRUARY 9—Great Britain.

MARCH 9—U. S. Documentary and Proprietary Revenue Stamps.

APRIL 13—Russia, Finland and Poland.

MAY 11—Egypt and Soudan.

Exhibits to be sent to the office of Mr. J. C. Morgenthau, 87 Nassau Street, New York, not later than the Thursday preceding the date of each exhibition.

The following resolution was passed:

"The Board of Governors have heard, with regret, of the death of our former fellow-member and friend, Wm. Alex. Smith, Jr., and instruct the Secretary to express their condolence to his widow.

The name of Chas. H. Stone, having been posted the required length of time, was balloted on and he was declared to have been unanimously elected a subscribing member of the Club.

Adjourned at 10.30 P. M.

JOHN N. LUFF, *Secretary pro tem*.

A special meeting (the 89th) of the Board of Governors was held at the club house on Saturday evening, January 17, 1903.

Present : Messrs. Andreini, Dewing, Luff, Scott and Perrin.

The President called the meeting to order at 8.30 P. M.

The Secretary read the resignation of Mr. H. L. Calman as Governor.

Moved by Mr. Scott, duly seconded and carried, that the resignation of Mr. Calman from the Board be accepted with regrets.

The name of Mr. Jos. S. Rich was placed in nomination for Governor by Mr. Perrin and seconded by Mr. Scott, to fill the vacancy on the Board. There being no other nominations the Secretary was instructed to cast the vote and the chair declared Mr. Rich unanimously elected.

Adjourned at 8.50 P. M.

ALBERT PERRIN, *Secretary*.

The 90th meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the club house on Monday evening, February 9, 1903.

Present—Messrs. Bruner, Dewing, Lombard, Rich, Scott and Perrin. In the absence of the President, Vice-President Bruner called the meeting to order at 8.20 P. M. The minutes of the two previous meetings were read and approved.

A number of communications were read by the Secretary. It was duly moved seconded and carried that the exhibition of the stamps of Russia, Finland and Poland be held on the evening of March 9 in place of in April, and that the April date be left open for the competitive exhibition of Australian stamps, prizes for which have been offered by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons.

The Treasurer's report showing a cash balance of \$491.94 exclusive of reserve fund, was approved as read. The report of the House Committee was read and accepted.

Moved by Mr. Rich, seconded and carried that the lease of the present club building be renewed for one year from May 1st next, provided nothing more suitable be found before the 25th inst.

An appropriation of \$25 was voted to the Literary Committee.

The judges on the Great Britain exhibition reported as follows :

To the Governors of the Collectors Club :

GENTLEMEN :—Having been appointed to judge the collections entered in the prize competition of the stamps of Great Britain, we beg to report as follows :

"Four exhibits were submitted to us, and each one of them was an exceedingly creditable collection of the country, and it caused your judges considerable time and trouble to decide to which one the prize should be awarded.

"We examined all the entries most carefully, taking into consideration completeness, rarity and condition, and as a result of this examination, found that the collection of Mr. Wm. H. Sussdorff excelled all the others and awarded the prize to him.

"The other three collections, exhibited by Messrs. Fiske, Herzog, and Luff were very close in rank, varying only by a few points in the total and it is chiefly as a matter of record that we report that the second place was awarded to the collection of Mr. J. M. Fiske.

Respectfully submitted,

"J. C. MORGENTHAU,
"EUSTACE B. POWER,
"P. F. BRUNER.

The application of L. W. Charlot having been posted the required length of time, was balloted upon and he was declared to have been unanimously elected a subscribing member of the club.

Adjourned at 9.15 P. M.

ALBERT PERRIN, *Secretary.*

The Philatelic Society of India.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at Mr. Larmour's residence, Calcutta, on Friday the 19th Dec. 1902 at 6 o'clock, Mr. C. F. Larmour being in the chair. A provisional statement disclosing a satisfactory financial position was presented, and a few minor alterations made in the Rules which, as amended, were ordered to be published in the Journal. Mr. E. W. Wetherell was accorded a special vote of thanks for his Editorship of the *Philatelic Journal of India* during 1902. The Honorable Mr. D. P. Masson was invited to publish his series of articles on the stamps of Afghanistan, which have appeared in the Journal during the year, in the form of a handbook, and the fact was noted with pleasure that the fiscal issues of India are at last receiving careful attention as evidenced by the instructive articles by Mr. C. H. Crosse in course of publication in the Journal. A discussion on the subject of an exhibition in Calcutta in the cold weather of 1903-04 was adjourned to the March meeting.

A souvenir of interest to Philatelists to be issued with the Delhi Dubar Postal Guide was announced. It consists of a complete collection of the whole of the adhesives (both Victorian & Edwardian) now on sale at the post offices throughout India. The stamps (of all values from 3 pies to 4 rupees) bear an official overprint (it can hardly be termed a post mark) indicating the special circumstances of their appearance. The guide will only be procurable at Delhi at noon on the 1st January, 1903, and its issue should aid very considerably in reducing the stock of remainders of the stamps of the last reign.

The following honorary officers were appointed for 1903: President, Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson, I. C. S. (Lahore). Vice-Presidents, The Right Honorable the Earl of Crawford, K. T. (London), Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, (Manchester), Mr. C. F. Larmour (Calcutta), and the Honorable Mr. D. P. Masson, C. I. E. (Lahore); Secretary, Mr. W. Corfield (Calcutta); Treasurer, Mr. D. P. Masson (Lahore); Librarian Mr. T. Hoffmann (Calcutta); Editor of the Journal, Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson (Lahore); Council, the above *ex-officio*, and Lieut. Col. G. F. A. Harris (Calcutta); Lieut. Col. C. P. Lukis (Agra); and Messrs G. A. Anderson, (Bombay); W. James (Calcutta); P. A. Selfe. (Calcutta) and E. W. Wetherell (Bangalore).

W. CORFIELD, *Hon. Sec.*

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

Dec. 4th.—Auction of 227 lots nearly all of which were mint colonials. After the sale the following were unanimously elected members.—Prince de Nissole, Messrs D. P. Masson, J. Bryson, Watkin Watkins, W. Batty Mapplebeck, C. H. Goulden. Messrs Bright & Son were thanked for a copy of their new catalogue.

Jan. 8th.—Discussion. N. S. W. 1854-1883 and a display of these issues by Messrs Pimm, Peck and Wadams. Further details will be published after the next discussion.

Messrs. H. Wade, P. D. Gelling Hayton, W. Hart, A. Bishop, W. J. Newton, M. A.; FR. G. S.; W. Johannides were unanimously elected members.

Messrs H. L. Hayman, P. Fabri, H. Dethloff, A. Sempad, W. M. Thompson and Prince de Nissole were thanked for contributions to the permanent collection and W. Morley for a member of periodicals and catalogues.

The next auction will take place on Feb. 26th. and 27th. for which a very fine lot of stamps has already been sent in. Any others must reach the Hon. Sec. by Jan. 26th.

